

## Message Text

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R 282346Z MAY 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT BY POUCH

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SENV

SUBJECT: HABITAT CONFERENCE ON HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

1. HABITAT: UN CONFERENCE ON HUMAN SETTLEMENTS WILL BE HELD IN VANCOUVER MAY 31-JUNE 11, 1976. THIS CONFERENCE WILL BE PATTERNED AFTER THOSE WHICH HAVE DEALT WITH THE ENVIRONMENT, POPULATION AND FOOD. THE CONFERENCE IS EXPECTED TO DEAL WITH A WIDE RANGE OF PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED WITH BOTH URBAN AND RURAL SETTLEMENTS.

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2. THUS FAR THERE HAS BEEN ONE FORMAL MEETING OF THE PREPARATORY COMMITTEE WHICH TOOK PLACE IN NEW YORK IN JANUARY 1975. PREP COM MADE MODEST PROGRESS TOWARD OUTLINING AREAS OF INTEREST WHICH MEMBER COUNTRIES WISH TO SEE ADDRESSED AT THE VANCOUVER CONFERENCE. A SECOND MEETING OF THE PREP COM IS SCHEDULED FOR NEW YORK THE END OF AUGUST AT WHICH TIME THE CONFERENCE AGENDA WILL BE DECIDED.

3. AS A MEANS OF BOTH EXPANDING AWARENESS OF AND INTEREST IN THE CONFERENCE AND AS A MEANS OF DEVELOPING REGIONAL VIEWS WITH RESPECT TO THE CONFERENCE AGENDA, THE SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE CONFERENCE, ENRIQUE PENALOSA, HAS ARRANGED A SERIES OF REGIONAL MEETINGS WHICH ARE SCHEDULED AS FOLLOWS: A JOINT ESCAP AND ECWA MEETING IN TEHRAN JUNE 14-19; AN ECA MEETING IN CAIRO JUNE 21-26; AN ECLA MEETING IN CARACAS JUNE 30-JULY 4; AND AN ECE MEETING IN GENEVA JUNE 30-JULY 1.

4. WE HAVE A KEEN INTEREST IN EACH OF THESE MEETINGS. THEY OFFER OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN MORE ABOUT LDC VIEWS WITH RESPECT TO THE CONFERENCE AND THE ISSUES TO WHICH THEY ASSIGN PRIORITY BEFORE NEXT MEETING OF PREP COM. THE JANUARY MEETING OF THE PREP COM WAS VIRTUALLY DEVOID OF POLITICAL CONTENT AND MARKED BY THE SOBERNESS OF LDC CONTRIBUTIONS AND PROFESSIONAL CALIBER OF THEIR REPRESENTATION, MOST OF WHOM CAME FROM CAPITALS. HOWEVER, IT IS CONCEIVABLE THAT CERTAIN AMONG THE LDC'S WILL WISH TO INJECT POLITICAL ISSUES INTO THE CONFERENCE AND THIS IS ONE OF THE THINGS WE WISH TO BE ALERT TO AT THE REGIONAL MEETINGS.

5. DEPARTMENT HAS RECEIVED INVITATIONS FROM THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARIES OF ESCAP AND ECLA TO ATTEND MEETINGS IN TEHRAN AND CARACAS. WE HAVE HEARD NOTHING FROM ECA.

6. FOR ADDIS - WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY'S MAKING DISCREET INQUIRY AS TO WHETHER US BEING INVITED TO CAIRO MEETING AS OBSERVER.

7. FOR BANGKOK AND SANTIAGO - WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR INFORMING EXECUTIVE SECRETARIES ESCAP AND ECLA THAT WE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ACCEPT INVITATION TO ATTEND MEETINGS. NAMES OF US DEL WILL BE SENT SHORTLY.

8. FOR CARACAS AND TEHRAN - DECISION HAS BEEN MADE NOT REPEAT NOT TO HAVE REPRESENTATION FROM WASHINGTON AT THESE MEETINGS. WE WOULD THEREFORE LIKE SENIOR U.S. EMBASSY OFFICER TO REPRESENT U.S. WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY'S INDICATING ASAP NAME OF OFFICER WHO WOULD TAKE

ON THIS RESPONSIBILITY. (DR. CHAPMAN WILL HANDCARRY  
BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS FOR TEHRAN'S USE.)

9. FOR GENEVA - YOU MAY NOTIFY SECRETARIAT THAT PROPOSED  
US DEL WILL BE STANLEY D. SCHIFF, COORDINATOR OF U.S.  
PARTICIPATION IN HABITAT CONFERENCE AND RONALD STEGALL,  
HUD. INGERSOLL

NOTE BY OC/T: 124427 POUCHED BEIRUT.

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